

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 00778 030430Z

14-11

ACTION AF-06

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SUBJECT: SOMALIAN DISTORTION OF EVENTS IN DJIBOUTI

1. WHAT WE UNDERSTAND TO HAVE BEEN INCIDENTS OF TRIBAL CONFLICT IN DJIBOUTI RECENTLY HAVE BEEN PORTRAYED BY GSDR-CONTROLLED MEDIA AS MASS PROTESTS AGAINST CONTINUED FRENCH RULE OF FTAL. MAY 29 RADIO COMMENTARY CLAIMED FIGHT BROKE OUT BETWEEN FRENCH TROOPS AND QTE SOMALI PEOPLE DEMANDING THEIR INDEPENDENCE UNQTE AND ACCUSED GOF OF MAKING DJIBOUTI A QTE CONCENTRATION CAMP UNQTE.
2. MAY 30 SONNA BLASTS FRENCH FOR AUGMENTING SECURITY FORCES IN DJIBOUTI, ALLEGING THEIR PURPOSE IS TO QTE ASSIST FRENCH MERCENARY TROOPS IN CARRYING ON THEIR SUPPRESSION AGAINST FRENCH SOMALI COAST FREEDOM FIGHTERS UNQTE. SAME ARTICLE CONTAINS SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT ALLEGATION THAT FRENCH ARE QTE PURPOSELY PROVOKING UNREST TO PROVE POPULATION CANNOT COEXIST AND THEREFORE IS NOT READY FOR INDEPENDENCE UNQTE.
3. ALSO ON MAY 30, ITALIAN-LANGUAGE HORSEED FRONT-PAGED ITEM AVERRING FIVE KILLED AND OVER 200 WOUNDED IN FIGHTING BETWEEN QTE FRENCH SOMALI COAST LIBERATION FIGHTERS AND OCCUPATION AND SUPPRESSION FORCES UNQTE. THE PAPERS SAID VICTORY INEVITABLE IN

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PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE. SAME PAPER'S ARABIC EDITORIAL

REVIVED THEME OF FRENCH PROVOCATION, CLAIMING THAT QTE POLITICAL PARTIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE UNITED NOW UNQTE AND THAT QTE AFARS AND ISSAS ARE BROTHERS UNQTE. EDITORIAL CLAIMS FRENCH AFRAID OF SENTIMENTS AMONG POPULACE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND, IN LEAGUE WITH THEIR QTE STOOGUE UNQTE, ALI AREF, SOUGHT TO GENERATE TRIBAL FRICTIONS TO DESTROY THE SUPPOSED UNITY OF AFAR AND ISSA.

4. BY JUNE 2 PRESS CLAMOR HAD SUBSIDED. SONNA, ON THAT DATE, CARRIED BRIEF PIECE REPORTING QTE MASS DEMONSTRATION UNQTE AGAINST FRENCH AFTER WHICH POLICE WERE SAID TO HAVE ARRESTED (UNIDENTIFIED) PEOPLE, SENDING THEM TO QTE UNKNOWN DESTINATIONS UNQTE.
HAMRICK

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